

A Message From Mike

The Saddest Word

Orphan is quite possibly the saddest word in our language. People will rush into burning buildings and rally an entire community when an orphan needs help. That's how it should be. We were created to help each other. And yet, far too often I see people cross the street to avoid a gray-haired homeless man sitting at the bus stop.

The truth is, even though he isn't a child, he's an orphan. An adult orphan.

Most of the people who come to the Mission had something happen in their childhood that put them on their path. Many were born into poverty or addiction. Almost all of them experienced some sort of trauma in their life at a young age.

It's not their fault that they are where they are. They were never taught any differently. That's why we started our Youth Program. This program is designed to help the kids staying with us work through their pain so they can gain the tools they need to break out of the cycle of poverty. And you know what? It's working.

It's working because of your support, prayers and generosity. These kids can feel it. They know it's real. And it's changing lives!

Thank you for your partnership!

In gratitude,

Mike

Mike Johnson
Executive Director

YOU CAN CHANGE A CHILD'S LIFE.

Help Children Escape Poverty! No Child Chooses to be Homeless

Children are products of the world they are born into, for better or for worse. When you are born into poverty, it's worse. Much worse.

But with food, shelter, support and the right tools, any child can become a success story and have a bright future. We have the numbers to prove it.

Of the 200 children involved in our programs last year, not one of them dropped out of school or were held back. Every single one of them missed fewer days of school than before. They all showed measurable growth in relationship building and success, thus providing hope for a better future.

Youth Programs at the Rescue Mission change lives – not just today or tomorrow but far into the future. Will you help give these children a chance?

Each \$30.79 provides a full day of care (including food, shelter and access to life-changing programs) for one youth.

Give Children a SUMMER – and a LIFE – of HOPE

Go online to TRM.org to give right now!

Without your help, these kids could have no chance at all.

HELP • HOPE • HEALING

THE TACOMA RESCUE MISSION NEWSLETTER

Connect with The Rescue Mission: myrescuemission  RescueMissionUS 

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

The entire staff of the Tacoma Rescue Mission pledges to do everything possible to help the hurting and homeless. It was our commitment when our work began in 1912 and it continues to drive us today.

We pledge to bring help, hope and healing to as many people as possible by providing food, shelter, clothing, education, job training, work opportunities, transitional housing and more.

In 2016 86¢ of every dollar went directly to services and facilities for the homeless.

P.O. Box 1912 | Tacoma, Washington 98401-1912 | (253) 383-4493 | trm.org

HELP HOPE HEALING

THE TACOMA RESCUE MISSION NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2017

Blankets, Food and a Chance

When you sit down and talk to April, you can tell she wants to be like any other kid.

“I love stuffed animals,” she says.

April keeps trying to turn the conversation towards fun things — the garden she helps water and how good she is at reading. Even though she's only in second grade, she knows that no one wants to hear the bad parts of life. She does her best to hide what she's been through, but now and then you get glimpses of what life was like before her family came to the Mission.

Continued inside

“I got a new sleeping bag, because I knew I was going to sleep on the ground.” -April

46% of the individuals staying at the Rescue Mission are 18 years old or younger.

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Rescue Mission

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Breaking the Cycle of Poverty: Three Siblings, One Story

(cont. from front page)

April is too smart to be tricked into thinking she was camping. She knew her family had lost everything.

“We had been living in this apartment,” her brother Kyle, who is 11, says. “It looked like it was gonna fall apart. My mom saw mold growing under the kitchen sink. The bathroom floors looked like you’d fall right through.”

“It wasn’t livable,” Kira, the oldest at 13, adds. “But we couldn’t afford it so we had to move out.”

That’s where April’s sleeping bag comes in. They had lost nearly everything else. Their mom had been working as hard as she could. She even went back to school, but without extra help, there was no way she would ever break out of poverty – or give her children the future they needed.

“We came here without food or blankets,” Kira says. “We’ve been struggling a lot with our bills.”

That’s a lot for any child to worry about, and yet that’s the reality these three kids – and many more like them – had until they came to the Mission.

“Now we have somewhere to live,” Kira says.

“Everyone is so nice,” April says of her first impression of the Mission.

But we don’t just aim to be nice. With your help, these children will have a whole different future.

Food, beds, safety and hope are just the start.

“Now we have a lot of opportunities.” – Kira



April with her mom, Tammy at the Mission's Family Campus.

You can give a homeless child a transformed life! Each \$30.79 provides three meals, safe shelter and holistic programs.

The Truth About Growing Up in Poverty

- Most of our clients who use alcohol ***started drinking around age 12***
- Homeless children have ***2x the learning disabilities***
- Nearly all the youth in Rescue Mission Youth Programs have experienced ***at least one major trauma***
- ***87%*** of homeless youth suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- ***72%*** of homeless children have suffered physical or sexual abuse
- There are between ***1 and 1.7 million homeless youth*** in the U.S.

What is the Youth Program?

The Rescue Mission's Youth Program was created to nurture, support and educate the children of homeless families staying at the Adams Street and Tyler Street Family Campuses.

Our primary goal is to offer help, hope and healing while equipping these young people with the skills they need to break out of poverty and break the cycle of homelessness in their families.

Every child who has gone through our program shows measureable improvement in self-perception, school bonding, social behaviors, grades, test scores and school attendance.

Will you support this outreach and continue changing kids’ lives today?



VERSE OF THE MONTH

“Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” - Matthew 19:14



Critical Volunteer Need!

We desperately need volunteers for our reception desk! If you are intesrested in this ongoing volunteer opportunity email volunteer@trm.org for details.

Our August Critical Needs:

- Bottled Water
- Fresh Produce
- Travel-size hygiene items
- Diapers of all sizes
- Bibles

Call us at 253.383.4493 to learn how you can help!

Our Current Prayer Requests:

Summer is winding down but there are still several weeks to go! Please join us in prayer for the final weeks of our SUMMER OF HOPE.

- Pray for the children currently in our youth programs.
- Pray for the parents who are getting their lives back on track.
- Pray that the mothers and fathers in our program will encourage their children to succeed and break the cycle of poverty and homelessness!
- Pray that God will provide an increase in giving so we can make it through the rest of the summer.
- Pray that God will bring us more volunteers.

To join our Prayer Team and receive updates email info@TRM.org!

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